

### **Amendments to the Specification**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

In FIG. 10, a vertical axis represents the same one as that of FIG. 8, and a horizontal axis represents the same one as that of FIG. 8. Broken line ~~29~~30 represents a characteristic when meshed screen plate 15 is fixed directly to laser gas passage 10 without seal parts 16. Solid line ~~30~~29 represents a characteristic when meshed screen plate 15 is joined to laser gas passage 10 by seal parts 16 each formed of the elastic member such as the rubber. As is clear from solid line ~~30~~29 and broken line ~~29~~30, the connection using seal parts 16 formed of the elastic members increases the laser output.